

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Research Activities at Zeiss, Jena

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SOURCE

1. The micro-organic department of Zeiss, Jena, under Dr. Trapp, is having difficulties with a current research project involving photographs of a certain unidentified mite. This mite, which is a form of parasite, is usually referred to by Zeiss personnel working on the problem as the clover mite, appears in large numbers in clover fields and is not harmful to the clover. However, it is said to be highly destructive of potato plants. In the latter part of August 1950, Zeiss was ordered to make photographs of the biological behavior of these mites, with a request for priority handling of the task. The Zeiss firm is having difficulties with the task because the available instruments do not have the necessary lighting arrangements for biological work. They have, however, established that the damage caused by the mite occurs as soon as the eggs are laid. These eggs are laid singly on the upper and on the lower surface of the leaves. Thereupon the leaf begins to shrivel and curl. However, Zeiss has apparently been informed that this is not the Viruskrausel sickness of plants. Those working on the project refuse to divulge the place or office which delivers these mites to Zeiss.
2. Zeiss is similarly having difficulties in photographing aspects of ultra-sound experiments which are being conducted by the Institute for Experimental Physical Therapy at Zeiss. These experiments reportedly involve subjecting live tissue to oscillations of 800 kilocycles, first using water fleas, then unicellular organisms, and later tissues. The ultra-sound transmitter being used for these experiments is about four times as large as those seen at Zeiss in recent years. Of further interest is the fact that ultraviolet rays are also used at the same time as the object is being subjected to ultra-sound waves in these experiments.
3. The first micro-hardness-tester has come out of the Zeiss production division and makes a very good impression.
4. Zeiss is unable for the time being to go into production of the planapochromats because the Schott firm in Jena is unable to produce bubble-free glass, even though lens diameters of only 3 mm are required.
5. There has been no progress in the development of the Roentgen microscope, and it is not expected that this will be accomplished until the middle of 1951.

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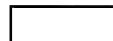
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6. Dipl.-Ing. Bischoff is to construct two micro-cinema apparatus in his experimental shop. Bischoff has stated recently that his shop is in bad need of constructors.

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